



The Sheaf

A publication of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota
Convention Season ~ 2022
(September and October 2022)

Celebrating the Beauty of our Episcopal/Anglican Heritage and Polity

Submitted by: The Right Reverend Thomas Ely



Since the earliest times, the church has gathered in councils, conclaves, conventions and assemblies of various sizes, shapes, and structures to discuss important matters and make significant decisions about its common life and the direction of its mission and ministry. In The Episcopal Church our polity is such that we gather in a variety of ways for these purposes.

At the local level, there are Annual Meetings, Vestry meetings, and an assortment of other conversations and planning meetings. These efforts are vital to our common life and mission, since each local community of faith ***IS*** the presence of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota.

At the diocesan level, we are led by a bishop and an elected Diocesan Council, The Standing Committee, and a variety of other committees, commissions, and boards. We also gather annually for Diocesan Convention, as we will do this coming October 21-22, when Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will be our special guest as we focus on the theme of ***Living into the Way of Love***. Elections, the budget, resolutions, various conversations, decisions about our future, and of course fellowship, are all part of this annual gathering. Here is the web address for our [Convention webpage](#).

At the wider church level The Episcopal Church meets every three years in General Convention, where we elect leaders for a variety of committees, commissions, boards, and agencies, including the Executive Council which functions as the churchwide leadership body between General Conventions. Each diocese elects 4 clergy and 4 lay deputies to serve in the House of Deputies. They are joined in this bicameral legislative assembly by the House of Bishops, including active and retired bishops. At our upcoming Diocesan Convention, we will elect our deputies for the next General Convention in 2024. A covid-delayed General Convention met this past July in Baltimore, where we passed the churchwide budget, to which each diocese is expected to contribute 15% of its net operating revenue.

Celebrating the Beauty *(cont'd...)*

We considered 431 resolutions, including resolutions related to liturgy, worship and prayerbook revision; racial healing and reconciliation, including addressing the Native American Boarding School crisis; various social justice resolutions; global mission concerns; mission, ministry, and vitality in congregations; safer church policies; finance and stewardship; creation care and environmental justice; communication and formation; and amended the Canons of our church on a variety of topics; and more... The Diocese of North Dakota was well represented through our reputation, and it was a joy and privilege to be with them.



If you want to know more about General Convention, please visit the [General Convention webpage](#).

On the worldwide level, The Episcopal Church is part of the Anglican Communion, of which there are 42 member churches, also known as Provinces. The spiritual leader of the Anglican Communion is the *Archbishop of Canterbury*, currently The Most Reverend and Right Honorable Justin Welby. *The Anglican Consultative Council* includes members of the laity, archbishops, bishops, priests, deacons, and, as such, is the most

widely representative body in the Anglican Communion. The role of the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) is to facilitate the cooperative work of the churches of the Anglican Communion, exchange information between the provinces and churches, and help to coordinate common action. The *Primates* of the Anglican Communion are the chief Archbishops, Presiding Bishops, Moderators, and chief pastors of the provinces. They have no authority as a body, but rather meet for “leisurely thought, prayer and deep consultation.”

Finally, within the Anglican Communion there is what is called the *Lambeth Conference of Bishops*. The Lambeth Conference takes place approximately every ten years. Bishops from around the Anglican Communion are invited to attend by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Lambeth Conference met this past summer in Canterbury around the theme “*God’s Church for God’s World: walking, listening and witnessing together.*” While I did not attend this conference (I did attend in 2008) due to other plans made before I joined you as Bishop Provisional in North Dakota, I did follow the conference online and through various news reports, as many of you did. Although there have been attempts to treat it as such, the Lambeth Conference is not a legislative body. Sometimes, contentious issues like matters related to human sexuality have been challenging for many, and sadly some bishops have chosen to stay away from this gathering. At the same time, others (as I did in 2008) have sought to use this gathering as a time to engage differences and build mission partnership around the globe. To learn more about the Anglican Communion please visit their [website](#).

Celebrating the Beauty *(cont'd...)*

All this brings me back to the theme of celebrating the beauty of our Episcopal Anglican heritage and polity, especially as we prepare to gather in Fargo for this year's Diocesan Convention. Like many of you, I have been an Episcopalian since my birth. I delight that ours is a polity in which many voices are honored and in which we share in the shaping and supporting of our common liturgy, life, and mission as the church. I cherish the ways in which we speak to the needs and concerns of the world, most often in response to the promises of baptism and through the lens of the Baptismal Covenant, and our engagement with Holy Scripture. I delight that we are a church that values difference, not only in terms of membership but also in terms of our willingness to engage different ideas and theological understandings. We are not afraid to engage the hard questions of the world even as we seek to hold love of God and love of neighbor as our principal touchstones. I appreciate our democratic approach to governance, ever mindful that throughout our history there have been efforts to silence some from the exercise of that governance and full participation in the life of our church. We are far from perfect, and our history is filled with mistakes we have made, mostly mistakes related to not respecting the dignity of others. We are a church in which the love of Jesus continues to shine through, even when our own egos and agendas sometimes get in the way.

When we gather in convention this October, we have the great privilege of welcoming our Presiding Bishop, who will be with us for convention and the 150th anniversary

celebration of our Cathedral and its ministry. Bishop Curry and I were ordained bishops in the same year, so for over 22 years we have shared episcopal ministry as colleagues and friends, and I am most grateful for our relationship. Bishop Curry has helped our church regain a sense of the importance of following Jesus with his stress on our church as the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement and the call to follow the Jesus Way of Love as our way of living. During this time of transition in the life of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota, as we look to discern God's future for us as congregations and as a diocese, it will be good to welcome our chief pastor among us and to be inspired for mission and ministry through his preaching and teaching. I look forward to seeing many of you at Convention and inviting the prayers of all for our gathering and our living with grace into the beauty of our Episcopal/Anglican heritage and polity.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas" with a stylized flourish at the beginning.

The Right Reverend Thomas C. Ely

A few helpful websites:

- [Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota](#)
- [The Episcopal Church](#)
- [Lambeth Conference](#)
- [ENS's General Convention](#)

Diocesan Convention
October 21-22, 2022
Ramada by Wyndham - Fargo, ND

Theme: Living into the Way of Love
Convention Website: www.ndepiscopal.org/convention2022

Invitation to Diocesan Convention

Submitted by: The Reverend Kim Becker

Dear Beloved in Christ,

As we gear up for Convention, when we will have the honor of welcoming our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, to North Dakota, I hope you are making plans to join us in Fargo, whether in person or online. Our theme is Living Into the Way of Love and as our Presiding Bishop always says, "if it's not about love, it's not about God!"

Convention is a time to address diocesan business, including the budget; the budget is always a theological document in that it shows priorities in ministry. Convention is also a time to come together for formation and worship as we celebrate the diversity of cultures throughout our diocese. This will be reflected both in our workshops and liturgies. Thank you to all delegates and all involved in preparation for this event!

As clergy of Native descent, I am especially grateful that Bishop Tom is always intentional about offering a land

acknowledgment, as a reminder that our diocese is situated on Native lands, whose cultures and traditions far predate our Episcopal presence.

In my role as Northwest Coordinator, I have been honored to get to know both Anglo and Native congregations, and while different cultures have differing perspectives, we are all joined in love for our Creator and in our common baptismal call to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourself.

Please keep our diocese in your prayers as we finalize preparations for Convention. Hope to see you in Fargo!

In Christ's peace, power, and love,

Kim+

Northwest Regional Coordinator
240.472.1102

Nwcoordinator@ndepiscopal.org

Budget

There is a copy of the budget on our website under the [convention tab](#). Budgets will be sent to all lay delegates and clergy 30-days prior to Convention, both electronically and via the USPS. If there are questions, please contact the Diocesan Office.

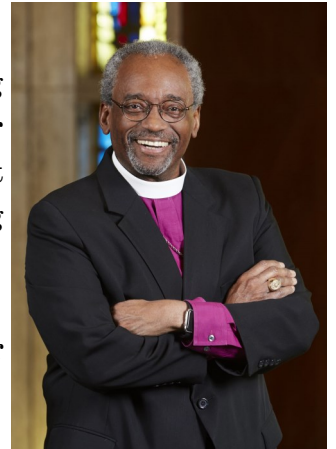
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Special Guest

The Most Reverend Michael Curry, our Presiding Bishop, will be visiting the Diocese of North Dakota on October 21-24. He will be attending our Diocesan Convention and celebrate with the Cathedral Congregation at their 150th Anniversary. Evensong will be held at the Cathedral following Convention on Saturday at 4:30pm, with a reception to follow.



Watch Gethsemane's website (www.gethsemanecathedralfargo.org) for further updates about the Presiding Bishop's schedule at Gethsemane.

Please RSVP to either the Diocesan Office or Gethsemane Cathedral if you plan on attending Saturday Evensong at 4:30pm and/or Sunday worship at 10:00am so the Cathedral can adequately prepare. Thanks!

Ramada Hotel Information

3333 13th Avenue S | Fargo, ND 58103

Book your hotel room by calling the Ramada (701-526-8096 | 701-235-3333). Mention the "Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota" to be reserved in our room block. *To receive the group rate, be sure to make your reservation by October 17, 2022.*

Display Tables

At our convention, there will be space for display tables. We look forward to as many tables as there are people interested in sharing their ministries. We ask that tables be ministries or interests appropriate to the Episcopal Church. These display tables could also be a chance to showcase a special ministry or program at your church. Once you get an idea for your display table, please email Jess in the Diocesan Office for the next steps.

Questions, comments, or concerns?

Please contact the Diocesan Office and Jess, our Diocesan Administrator, will route your inquiry through the proper convention committees.

Email: office@ndepiscopal.org | Phone: 701-235-6688

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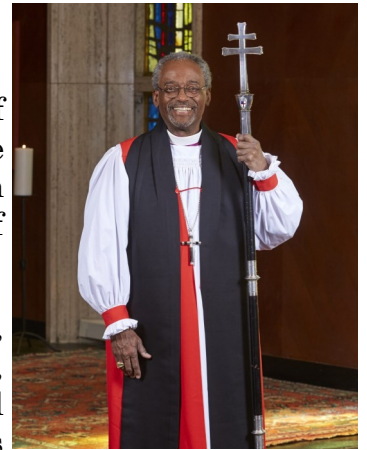
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Special Guest: Bishop Michael Curry

The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry is presiding bishop and primate of The Episcopal Church. At the church's 78th General Convention in June 2015, he was elected to a nine-year term in this role and installed in November of that year; he serves as The Episcopal Church's chief pastor, spokesperson, and president and chief executive officer.

Throughout his ministry, Bishop Curry has been a prophetic leader, particularly in the areas of racial reconciliation, climate change, evangelism, immigration policy, and marriage equality. His vision and message as presiding bishop is animated by Jesus of Nazareth and his way of radical, sacrificial love, and he regularly reminds Episcopalians they are “the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement.”



Widely regarded as one of the most dynamic preachers of our time, Bishop Curry was ordained a priest in 1978 and served parishes in North Carolina, Ohio, and Maryland until his election as the 11th bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina in 2000.

Bishop Curry has been extensively involved in Crisis Control Ministry and the Absalom Jones Initiative, founding ecumenical summer day camps for children, preaching missions, creating networks of family day care providers and educational centers, and brokering millions of dollars of investment in urban neighborhoods.

The descendant of enslaved Africans brought to North America by way of the trans-Atlantic slave routes, Bishop Curry was born in Chicago in 1953. His father was also an Episcopal priest, and after Bishop Curry's mother died when he was young, he and his sister were raised by their father and grandmother in upstate New York.

Bishop Curry attended public schools in Buffalo, graduated with high honors from Hobart and Williams Smith Colleges, and earned a Master of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School. He furthered his education at The College of Preachers, Princeton Theological Seminary, Wake Forest University, the Ecumenical Institute at St. Mary's Seminary, and the Institute of Christian Jewish Studies. He holds honorary doctorates from Yale University, Virginia Theological Seminary, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, and Episcopal Divinity School.

Bishop Curry is the author of five books and a regular guest on national and international media outlets. In 2018, Religion News Association named him religion newsmaker of the year.

A resident of Raleigh, North Carolina, Bishop Curry is married to Sharon (Clement) Curry, and the couple has two adult daughters, Rachel and Elizabeth. © *The Episcopal Church website.*

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Tentative Convention Schedule

Friday, October 21st

12:00pm	NDCIM Lunch
1:30pm	Gathering Plenary
2:00pm	Workshops
3:15pm	Break
3:30pm	Workshops
4:45pm	Break
5:00pm	NDCIM meets with Presiding Bishop
5:30pm	Social
5:30pm	Friends of Bill meeting
6:30pm	Dinner, Presiding Bishop's address, Compline



Saturday, October 22nd

8:30am	Eucharist (with Presiding Bishop preaching)
10:00am	Break
10:30am	Convention Business (beginning with Bishop's address)
12:30pm	Lunch & East/West Meetings
1:30pm	Reconvene, Convention Business
4:30pm	Evensong at Gethsemane Cathedral (with the Presiding Bishop)

Nominations

There is a nomination form available on the [website](http://www.ndepiscopal.org/convention2022).

Know of someone who is passionate about the Diocese and would do well in a position of leadership? Nominate them for one of the many open positions throughout the Diocese. You yourself want to run? You may turn in your own nomination form. Questions about what it means to be a part of Diocesan Council or Standing Committee? Reach out to Bishop Tom Ely or Diocesan Minister Steve Godfrey for more information.

Nominations to be included in the Convention packets will be accepted until Monday, October 10, 2022. After that date, as in the past, nominations "from the floor" for candidates for elective office will be in order at the Convention.

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Secretary of Convention

Elect: 1 person, 1 year term, repeatable

This person is responsible for the recording of the proceedings of the Convention, and for their publication. The staff of the Diocesan Office provides assistance.

Treasurer of the Diocese

Elect: 1 person, 1 year term, repeatable

This person is responsible for oversight of receipt and disbursement of all diocesan funds, and for reporting the same in accordance with church and state laws. The Treasurer should have general knowledge of accounting procedures, and a close and supportive relationship to the Diocese and the local church. The position carries seat, voice, and vote in Convention and on the Diocesan Council. The treasurer is usually, though not necessarily, the Chair of the Finance Committee. The Dio. Admin. handles the day-to-day bookkeeping, payment of accounts, etc.

Standing Committee/Diocesan Council

Standing Committee: Elect 1 clergy, 3 year term

Standing Committee: Elect 1 lay person, 3 year term

East Region to Diocesan Council: Elect multiple positions, 3 year term

West Region to Diocesan Council: Elect multiple positions, 3 year term

The Standing Committee meets concurrently with Diocesan Council (6 times per year) or on call by the President, or the Bishop. Its concerns are final approval, with the Bishop, of persons in process toward ordination, with legal matters, especially the sale or encumbrance of diocesan properties, and various canonical responsibilities at the national level (e.g., consents to the election and consecration of bishops). In certain matters it may be a council of advice to the Bishop, and in their absences or incapacity, the Standing Committee becomes the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese. The President of the Standing Committee is elected annually from among its membership. Members of this Committee are also members of the Diocesan Council.

The Diocesan Council is similar to the Vestry or Bishop's Committee of a local congregation. It serves to carry out the program and budget of the Diocese between meetings of the Convention. Meetings are held in person [3 of them (Friday evening to Saturday afternoon)] and on Zoom [3 of them (Tuesdays or Saturdays)]. This is an important policy setting, planning, and administrative group, which, with the Bishop, make many decisions about the on-going life of the Diocese. Persons serving on Council should have a good understanding of the Church at the local level and a strong personal commitment to Christ.

General Convention Deputies

Elect multiple positions

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Resolutions

Resolution #1

RESOLVED,

that Canon 2, Section 1(a), of the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota be amended as follows: (a) The Diocese shall meet annually, the meeting to be known as the Annual Convention, at the time and place designated by the Bishop, with the advice and consent of the Diocesan Council. The time and place of each Annual Convention shall be communicated by appropriate means to all members of the Diocese at least 18 months in advance of that Annual Convention.

Resolution #2

RESOLVED,

that this Convention deplores the increase in gun violence across the United States, including mass shootings in schools, churches, grocery stores and shopping malls, and urges our state and Federal officeholders to take further action to limit or eliminate the availability of guns and high-capacity magazines – especially weapons of war such as the AR-15 rifle — to those persons unfit to purchase them.

And, be it further resolved that the Secretary of the Convention is instructed to forward this resolution to the Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations and to the Governor of North Dakota and Members of Congress from North Dakota.

Resolution #3

RESOLVED,

that this Convention deplores the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* and affirms that reproductive rights are human rights and that the decision to have an abortion is a decision that should be left to the woman and her physician, with limited restrictions.

And, be it further resolved that the Secretary of the Convention is instructed to forward this resolution to the Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations and to the Governor of North Dakota and Members of Congress from North Dakota.

Resolution #1 Submitted by: Chancellor Leo Wilking on behalf of the Canons Committee
Resolutions #2 & #3 Submitted by: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Fargo

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Workshops

(All workshops will be offered at 2:00pm and 3:30pm on Friday, October 21st.)

The Lakota Story of Place: Living the Way of Love through engaging Native American History and Spirituality ~ Dakota Goodhouse

Creation Care: Living the Way of Love through Care of Creation ~ Amy Phillips

Reconciliation: Living the Way of Love through Reconciliation, Reparations, and the Restorative Power of Ceremony ~ Robert Fox

Christian Formation: Living the Way of Love through Christian Formation ~ Michelle Weidman and The Reverend John Floberg

News from the New Season of Ministry Task Force

Submitted by: John Baird and Carmine Goodhouse, co-chairs NSMTF

After recommendations from the Diocesan Discernment Task Force, our diocese has made some changes in the last few years including increasing cohesive communication, rebuilding relationships, addressing racial healing and reconciliation, youth and young adult ministries, diocesan leadership and administration, and looking to new models of congregational leadership and ministry. As we are now discerning options for our long-term future, the New Season of Ministry Task Force (NSMTF) wants to hear from you about how things are currently going in the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota. This notice is a “heads up” that we are completing a survey that we would like Episcopalians from across our diocese to complete. Keep an eye out for that survey and please do respond. We plan on using this information for our church wide visits coming this fall. So, in addition to the survey, please stay tuned for more information regarding when the NSMTF will be visiting with your congregation.

Interested in more information about the Diocesan Discernment Task Force? Check out their webpage at www.ndepiscopal.org/ddtf/

Calendar

Bishop Ely's Schedule

September

- 22nd-28th: Bishop Ely in North Dakota
- 25th: Bishop's Visitation: St. Paul's, Grand Forks

October

- 11th-19th: Bishop Ely on vacation
- 20th-24th: Bishop Ely in North Dakota

November

- 15th-21st: Bishop Ely in North Dakota

Diocesan Events and Dates to Note

September

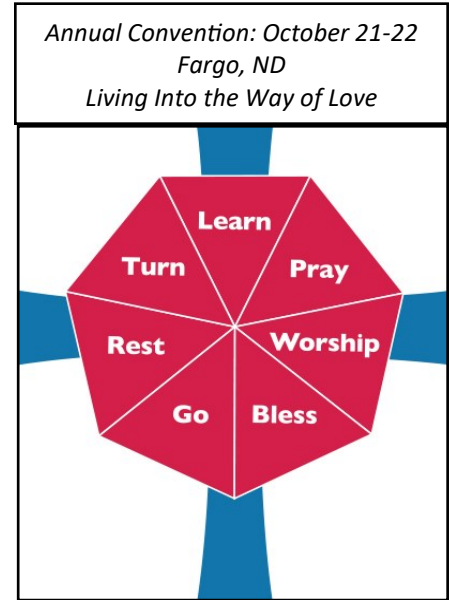
- 16th-18th: School for Ministry (Bismarck)
- 22nd: Full-time Priest Meeting (Jamestown); 12:00pm
- 22nd: Convention Planning Meeting (Zoom); 7:00pm
- 22nd: Diocesan Ministry Support Team Meeting (Grand Forks); 9:00am
- 23rd-24th: Diocesan Council Meeting (Grand Forks)

October

- 4th: Clergy/Congregation Leaders Meeting (Zoom); 6:30pm
- 4th: Province VI Small Church Gathering (Zoom); 7:30pm
- 5th: Convention Planning Meeting (Zoom); 7:00pm
- 6th: Diocesan Ministry Support Team Meeting (Zoom); 8:30am
- 6th: Lectio Divina (Zoom); 7:00pm
- 13th: Convention Planning Meeting (Zoom); 7:00pm
- 21st: Diocesan Ministry Support Team Meeting (Fargo); 9:00am
- 21st-22nd: Diocesan Convention (Fargo)

November

- 1st: Clergy/Congregation Leaders Meeting (Zoom); 6:30pm
- 1st: Province VI Small Church Gathering (Zoom); 7:30pm
- 3rd: Diocesan Ministry Support Team Meeting (Zoom); 8:30am
- 3rd: Lectio Divina (Zoom); 7:00pm
- 10th: *Sheaf* articles are due!
- 10th-17th: Northwest Coordinator on vacation
- 18th: Diocesan Ministry Support Team Meeting (Jamestown); 10:00am
- 18th-19th: Diocesan Council Meeting (Jamestown)
- 21st-26th: Diocesan Minister on vacation
- 22nd-Dec. 6th: Northwest Coordinator on vacation
- 24th-25th: Diocesan Office Closed



Creation Care Circle

Brought to you by the Diocesan Creation Care Circle Committee



MONARCH BUTTERFLY ON ENDANGERED LIST

The beautiful monarch butterfly, known for its amazing roundtrip migration between Mexico and Canada, has been placed on the endangered list of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. The IUCN estimates that the monarch population in North America has declined by up to 72% in the last 10 years. Logging, deforestation, urban development, herbicides, pesticides and climate change (via droughts and temperature extremes) have contributed to the ongoing loss of this amazing creature.

Monarch butterflies are an important part of our ecosystem. Monarchs are pollinators – as they land on flowers to sip nectar, they transfer flower pollen between plants. They are also a food source for birds, small animals, and other insects. Monarchs are essential to the health of our planet.

We can all do our part to support the monarch butterfly by engaging in the following activities:

1. ***Plant native milkweed or construct a “monarch way station” that includes milkweed.*** Milkweed is the only plant in which the monarch lays its eggs and the only plant monarch larvae eat!
2. ***Avoid using pesticides in your garden.*** Many pesticides contain glyphosate, an herbicide that kills milkweed.

3. ***Read more about the decline of monarch butterflies and educate others about it.*** See the links below for more information.



Photo: International Union for Conservation of Nature

The monarch butterfly is one of the millions of beautiful species in God's Creation. May we all do our small part to care for it.

Information about the monarch butterfly:

- [Friends of the Earth](#)
- [Monarch Watch](#)
- [Monarch Water](#)
- [Save Our Monarchs](#)
- [IUCN](#)
- [One Green Planet](#)

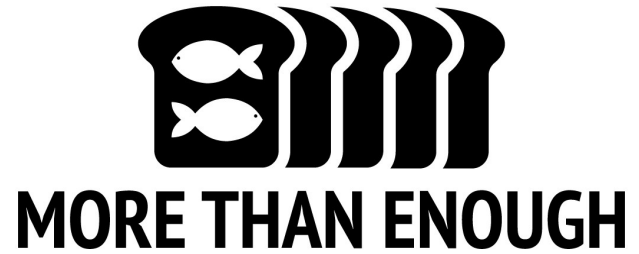
The Diocesan Creation Care Committee invites convention visitors and delegates to visit its table and attend its workshop on Friday, October 21.



We look forward to seeing you!

TENS News: “More than Enough”

As you make plans for your fall stewardship campaign, resources from The Episcopal Network for Stewardship (TENS) are available free of charge to all congregations and members of the Diocese of North Dakota through the diocese’s annual TENS membership.



The TENS website has materials to download, adapt, and use to develop your fall stewardship programming. This year’s theme is “More than Enough.” Resources include:

- Sample letters from clergy, wardens, and committee chair
- Customizable pledge cards
- Prayers of the People for use in the campaign season
- This year's hymn *More Than Enough* from the TENS hymn-writer in residence
- Weekly reflection bulletin inserts on Sundays from September 11—November 13.
- Seasonal Reflections
- A timeline and info sheet on how to use TENS resources for traditional and virtual campaigns

Access to this year’s resources is password protected and available by contacting Jess Thielke, Diocesan Administrator, at 701.235.6688 | office@ndepiscopal.org.

TENS is an association of church leaders, both lay and ordained, “who are committed to living generously and helping others live lives of generosity.”

If you have questions about TENS or the annual resources, contact Fr. Mark Strobel who is a member of the TENS Board of Directors at 701.232.3394 | markstrobel@gmail.com



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
319 South 5th Street, Grand Forks

Sunday, September 25th
at 10:15 a.m.

Please join us for an uplifting
worship service to celebrate
the 150th Anniversary of the first
Episcopal service in Grand Forks



Bishop Tom Ely will be our worship leader and preacher. Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall following the service.

St. Gabriel's Camp

Submitted by: Sloane Floberg



St. Gabriel's Camp on the Standing Rock reservation saw another full summer of camping with many new faces, including those from other states. Three camps, starting in June and ending in August, were sponsored by The Episcopal Church and Young Life on Standing Rock, the fourth camp was a nationwide camp sponsored by the Indigenous Ministries Office of the Episcopal Church with Brad Hauff.

Each camp worked with different themes that came from brainstorming what students are faced with and where the Holy Spirit wanted to lead. We also were blessed to have a few leaders from the community volunteer their time to teach campers how to make traditional foods and crafts. During many of



our camps, students could hike the butte, swim in the pool at camp, go tubing at Froelich Dam, paint on canvas, sing karaoke or hang out in the canteen.

Our first camp in June focused on building connections, and how we are wired for connection with others and how God made us dependent on each other, especially Him. The second focused on ingredients to follow God's "recipe for a good life" which included a special



guest before each talk who tried to make gourmet meals on his own, but never followed the recipe. While many students never grew up watching the Swedish Chef from the Muppets, they left knowing every time he tried to do things on his own without God's help or His word, things did not go according to plan. Campers learned how to make frybread and made the infamous Indian Taco for supper.



The last camp focused on how to be a good relative. This was of particular importance to our leaders as many have seen the dynamics students find themselves in when others are not being a good relative to them



or the other way around. Many Lakota and Dakota teachings were shared by our leaders who grew up remembering stories from their elders as well as their favorite teachings of Jesus who paralleled several Dakota/Lakota values many of our leaders were taught. Campers were also taught how to make dream catchers.



Our fourth camp, the Native Youth Event, brought campers from Minnesota, Navajoland and Standing Rock to learn how to be a beloved community in the face of all that has transpired through the years.



At the culmination of this camp, a mural was completed on Beade's Crossing, with the help of a wonderful artist, Dimitree Kadiev, who also painted the mural inside of St.



James in Cannonball. This youth event is the second of its kind, the first one was in 2019. Many friendships were made between students and hopes swirled of gathering again for another camp of its kind in another three years.



We would like to thank anyone and everyone who gave to support this summer of camping at St.

Gabriel's. If you have a group you would like to bring out to the camp for a retreat, hunting, leadership development or work week, you are welcome at our fire, we'd love to see your face!



Diocesan Council Meeting Update (July 22-23, 2022)

Submitted by: Donna Pettit

Diocesan Council met in person at Church of the Advent in Devils Lake on July 22-23, 2022. Before I say anything about the Meeting, I would first like to express our gratitude and appreciation to the Advent members who hosted and fed us throughout our meeting time. They were so gracious and thoughtful; we felt very welcomed.

The meeting began with devotions and a time of sharing our summer highlights. Happily everyone had a highlight they were glad to share, and by sharing happy moments we were each able to learn more about each other. The rest of the evening was spent on a presentation from Bishop Ely on the organization of our diocesan structure. By understanding the present structure and how it works, we are better able to make decisions about our future and the essential next steps. His PowerPoint presentation made the organization very clear and to see it laid out was helpful to all of us. After viewing and discussing the presentation, we broke into three groups where we shared ideas about our hopes for the future, questions we had, and concerns about how to move forward. These comments will be shared with the New Season of Ministry Task Force as they continue their work.

On Saturday morning we began with the first of two budget items. First we discussed the 2022 budget-to-date and year-to-date narrative. We are half way through the current budget year. While, as we all know, money issues are volatile now, we are doing okay. Okay to me means not wonderfully well but not alarmingly poorly. As the year plays out we anticipate having funds available to use that will cover our needs.

My take is the Treasurer and Finance Committee are on top of what is occurring and ready to take necessary actions. Council received the budget report, subject to our yearly audit. This is the terminology for saying we have studied the budget, approved what is happening, and know it goes to the auditor at year-end.

We then heard reports from committees and had a chance to ask questions. This consisted of questions and conversations; some of it was fruitful and some helped us understand better how things work. We also discussed some plans for Diocesan Convention workshops and activities.

After lunch we tackled the second big budget issue which was the 2023-2024 budget. This is the first time we are trying to set a budget for two years. We discussed some of the issues with Cost of Living, Insurance, the General Convention Grant for Native Ministry, and other pesky details required for budgets, but which are not presently known in dollar amounts. Again, every time we go through this we learn more about the budgeting process and the money held by the diocese. I think next time we have a Council meeting, my report to you should include a few words on: if the diocese has x number of dollars how come we can't spend all of them however we want? Anyway we are getting the budget closer for approval at Convention and again the Treasurer and the Finance Committee are doing a good job of getting the information needed for the budget.

Several other projects to be presented at Convention were discussed and can be announced when plans are firmer.

Tu'Deako Group Building Community

Submitted by: Deacon Gadi Edward



The Tu'Deako organization was created in 2010, originating at St. John the Divine Episcopal Church, Moorhead, by Deacon Gadi Edward. The purpose and objective is to help the Sudanese community within the Fargo/Moorhead area by providing necessities and services. Some of these services and necessities include the Tu'Deako's food pantry, sanitation, tutoring and after school physical activities for kids, where we teach our kids the roots of where they come from. Teaching this to our kids plays a major role in their life, because it can ground them with a mindset to persevere.

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." — *John 13:34*

The name "Tu'Deako" originates from a language deep within the Sudanese village of Mundri meaning "helping others." The goal is not only to leave an impact here but back home also. Tudeako has successfully built three classrooms for Eperema Preschool in Mundri. The plan is to build two more there and one more in Hai Kulia inside Juba, South Sudan. We are planning on sending students to Africa for the purpose of educating and networking to make the city sustainable.



Tu'Deako Group Elementary School, South Sudan



Tu'Deako Group Food Pantry



Missions at Grace Episcopal, Jamestown

Submitted by: Brandy Watson

During these warm summer months, Grace Church has continued with their mission projects. Two have been ongoing projects and one is an annual project.

Grace Church of Jamestown members worked again with the Mission Team on July 24, 2022, to bag beans for distribution throughout the diocese and beyond. We packaged 350 pounds of various beans in around an hour. This project has become a meaningful way for our congregation to reach people beyond our doors.



Members of the congregation are shown packaging beans and a member receiving the beans at St. John the Divine Episcopal Church of Moorhead, MN.

We also continue to prepare and serve a meal several times a year for the *Come to the Table* ministry here in Jamestown. Each week a meal is given out at St. John's Lutheran Church. We have served a nutritious and hopefully filling meal to a varying number of people in need each time.

Grace Church also participated in the University of Jamestown Community Block Party. We gave away 300 packs of Jimmie Ramen to incoming freshmen UJ students and were able to chat with members of all ages in our community! Those that have been involved in this project for several years find it a fun way to introduce the community to the Episcopal Church.



Grace Church Members are shown participating in the UJ community block party. We prepared and gave away 300 packages of Jimmie Ramen.



Pictured here are a couple of the members that participate in the come to the table ministry with Father Bob Hoekstra Rector of Grace Church.



Arikara Cultural Center
100 Sahnish Dr., Roseglen

Wednesday, September 28th
at 5:00 p.m.

As part of the United Thank Offering grant our diocese received on behalf of St. Paul's, White Shield for creation care and environmental

reparations, there will be an elder-led class on the history of St. Paul's at the Arikara Cultural Center on September 28th at 5pm. All are invited to come listen to the history, culture, and tradition of the lasting legacy of the Episcopal presence of St. Paul's, despite original lands being flooded by the Garrison Dam. The Reverend Duane Fox, our elder Indigenous priest, will lead the presentation, along with other elders. Supper will be provided, so come hungry!

Partnership for ReNEWal Retreat St. George's Episcopal Church, Bismarck

Submitted by: Joanne Lassiter, Senior Warden

The Vestry locked arms with Cofounders Martin Darby and Valori Mulvey Sherer of Partnership for ReNEWal on June 13 and 14. Partnership for ReNEWal's purpose is to engage and partner with individual churches in a variety of ways to discover and rediscover the spiritual journey, so the divine purpose for each congregation is nourished and nurtured and launched with concrete goals, tools, and support for the journey. Martin and Valori also spent time in Williston and Fort Totten in June for the same educational sessions and initiative.

After sharing fellowship and a meal each night, time was devoted to asking ourselves what gifts God is giving us and how the Vestry can share in the pattern and power of Jesus. We were charged with completing three self-assessments prior to our meeting

time and assess the strengths we possess. We then talked through the various talents of the Vestry to further empower ourselves. Time was devoted to Servant Leadership and what St. George's can do to increase the awareness of St. George's in the community and through social media. We also discussed stewardship and developing a divine purpose statement. The purpose statement will be finalized at the next Vestry meeting to ensure it aligns with the mission of St. George's. Please reach out to any of the members of the Vestry to learn more, and please continue to ask yourselves, "What is God calling us to do?"

Let us remember Isaiah 6: 8 "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"



Back Row: Jacinda Simmons; Mary Henderson; Dn. Beth Lipp; Mark Hanlon; Steve Tillotson; Martin Darby; Tom Hopkins

Front Row: Valori Mulvey Sherer; Colette Rudolph; The Rev. Hal Weidman; Anne Reynolds; Joanne Lassiter; Supo Olagoke



The Sheaf

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